

**Free Public Lecture:**

# **Are You Getting That Sinking Feeling ?**

## **L a n d   S u b s i d e n c e   i n   t h e   U n i t e d   S t a t e s**

**By Steve Ingebritsen, Hydrologist**

- Land subsidence affects more than 15,000 square miles in 45 states, causing at least \$125 million in damage per year
- In the greater San Jose area, subsidence from early agricultural ground-water use has permanently increased flood risk
- Subsidence in the San Joaquin Valley—described as the largest single human modification of the Earth's topography—locally exceeds 28 feet
- Much of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is now more than 15 feet below sea level due to drainage of organic soils
- Is land subsidence completely irreversible?

**Thursday, September 27, 2001, 7:00 pm**  
**USGS, Building 3, Menlo Park, CA**

The Earth Science Information Center (Map and Publication Sales) in Building Three will remain open until 7:00 p.m. on the evening of the lecture. See other side for USGS site map.

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